



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNDER SECRETARY OF COMMERCE FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND
DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231
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FEB 6 2002

Paper No. 7

In re Application of :
Roger M. Snow : DECISION ON PETITION
Application No. 09/740,216 :
Filed: December 18, 2000 :
Attorney Docket No. PA0513.ap.US :

This is a decision on the petition filed on January 14, 2002 by which petitioner requests that this application be accorded special status for advanced examination out of turn.

The petition is granted.

Petitioner requests special status on the basis of the existence of an actual infringement. A review of the petition shows that it satisfies all of the requirements established in MPEP 708.02(II) for a petition on that grounds.

Accordingly, the examiner will treat this application as special throughout its prosecution. Prior to the first action on the merits, the examiner will conduct a rigorous search for potentially interfering applications. The interference search will be brought up to date prior to each successive action.

The application is being forwarded to the Supervisory Patent Examiner of Patent Examining Art Unit 3711, who will forward the application to the examiner for action consistent with this Decision.

PETITION GRANTED.

Stephen Marcus, Special Program Examiner
Patent Examining Groups 3710 and 3720

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